

**PATENT** 

41316

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Hiroyuki KAKITA et al.

Serial No.: 09/753,677

Filed: January 4, 2001

For: PROCESS FOR TRANSPORTING,

STORING, AND PRODUCING A

PARTICULATE WATER-ABSORBENT

**RESIN** 

Patent Art Unit: 1714

RECEIVED
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## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

## **IN THE SPECIFICATION**:

On page 19, lines 3-13, please amend the paragraph to read

-- First, 0.2 g of water-absorbent resin was uniformly placed into a tea bag type bag (60 x 60 mm) and the opening portion of the bag was heat-sealed, and then the bag was immersed into a 0.9 wt % aqueous sodium chloride solution (physiological saline solution). Sixty minutes later, the bag was drawn up and the amount (W1 [g]) of the bag was measured after removing water by use of a centrifugal separator (250 G (250 x 9.81 m/sec²), 3 minutes). In addition, the same procedure is carried out without using the water-absorbent resin, and then the amount (W0 [g]) of the bag was measured. The water absorption capacity

